



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE:

EP-5

August 10, 2011

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

BOARD MOTION OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2003, SYNOPSIS 5 STATUS REPORT ON REMOVAL OF ELSMERE CANYON LANDFILL FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT

On September 30, 2003, your Board instructed Public Works to take necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon from the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element's (Siting Element) list of future landfill sites and to report back every 60 days. Based on our August 23, 2010, Status Report to your Board, the reporting frequency was changed to semi-annually considering the duration of the Siting Element revision process. This report covers the period from February 1, 2011, through July 31, 2011.

Public Works continues to revise the Siting Element to remove Elsmere Canyon from the list of future landfill sites. Revisions to the document entail updating extensive technical information and performing analysis concerning all solid waste disposal facilities throughout the region. These revisions are being reviewed by the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force, after which the revised Siting Element and its environmental documents will undergo further reviews in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements, including approvals by your Board, the 88 cities in the County of Los Angeles and the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.

Over the last decade, several actions have transpired to ensure that Elsmere Canyon would be preserved for open space:

- The Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 prohibits the transfer of any National Forest System lands in the Angeles National Forest out of Federal ownership for use as a solid waste landfill. This law

precluded approximately 1,600 acres, which are part of the National Forest system lands, from consideration towards a future landfill site.

- In August 2007, Allied Waste Industries, Inc., dedicated its grant of 400 acres of the previously proposed Elsmere Canyon site to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for permanent open space and for public parkland and recreational uses.
- On November 30, 2010, your Board authorized the Chief Executive Office to execute a funding agreement with the City of Santa Clarita to partially reimburse the City towards the purchase of 842 acres of privately-held land in Elsmere Canyon.

While these actions collectively diminish the potential for siting a new landfill in Elsmere Canyon, we will continue to revise our Siting Element including removing references to Elsmere Canyon as a future landfill site. The next status report will be submitted to your Board in February 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Pat Proano of Environmental Programs Division at (626) 458-3500, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

CA:my
P:\sec\Elsmr0811

cc: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office